Vol. II. Numb. 54.

THE OBSERVATOR.

f the Foreign News. Of the Preparations of the Dutch *in Order to Convoy the King of* Spain *to* Portugal. *Of the Preparations of the* French *by Sea. Of the Home News. The Revolution Vindicated.*

From Saturday October the 9th, to Wednesday October the 13th, 1703.

Obſ. NOW, Honeſt *Country-man*, for your parcel of News you Promis'd us.

Country-m. We have got ſome Mails Arriv'd at ſt; but I have not got that by them which I exected and hop'd for: I thought the New King of *ain* by this time had been in *Holland*; but I find e is got no farther than the Biſhop of *Paderborns*, t is expected at *Duſſeldorp* in a few Days. If he on't make haſte and come away to his Kingdom, it ill quite break my Heart; I think I almoſt Long as uch for His Coming, as I did for the Prince of *range*, and I fancy 'twill be juſt ſuch another Job *Spain*, as 'twas in *England* at that Time. The *Will-Makers* and the *Truſtees* to the *Will*; The Car-inal *Porto Carrero*, the *Father Peters* of that Coun-ry; The Brave Don *Diabolo*'s of *Anjou*'s Party, with ll their Infernal Officers, will ſcamper juſt as ours id. The *Lord Mayor* of *Madrid*, he'll kick up his eels, as my Lord Mayor *Chapman* did, for Fear: They'll look juſt as the *Jacks* and *High-Flyers* did at he Revolution. 'Tis Pity they ha'n't a Prince of *Caſtile* too; can't they hew one out of a *Brick-Bat*, a *Tile*, a *Hackney-Turnep*, or *Sandwich-Carrot*?' Twould e as good a one as our Pretended Prince of *Wales*. Methinks I would have the Revolution of *Spain* to e juſt like that of *England*; for ours was a pure good one.

Obſ. If things ſucceed as well in *Spain*, as they did in *England*, thou'lt have thy Wiſh; and if the People of *Spain* are as careful of their Liberties, as were the People of *England*, it muſt be as thou would'ſt have it. But what farther News haſt thou of the Preparations of the *French*, in Order to intercept the New King of *Spain*?

Country-m. That's well minded, I'll tell you: My Queens *Gazette* ſays, *That the States General have reſolv'd to double their Naval Forces intended to Convoy the New King to* Portugal, *and that inſtead of Twelve Men of War, deſigned for that Expedition, they have ordered Twenty Four to be fitted out with all Diligence.*

Obſ. Very well, Twenty Four of the *Dutch*, and ſuppoſe Thirty Six of the *Engliſh*, that makes Sixty Sail of Men of War, which are enough to Fight the whole Navy of *France*: 'Tis very unlikely that we ſhall ſend in that Expedition, fewer Ships than the *Dutch*, and if we ſend but Two more than They, We ſhall make a Fleet of Fifty Sail. I don't perceive any thing can obſtruct the *Engliſh* in fitting out a good Fleet on this Occaſion, but the want of Seamen, of which we have not that need in this Expedition, as in others; becauſe the Ships will have ſuch a Number of Land Forces on Board them; ſo that the Ships of War need not have above half their Complement of Seamen; for in an Engagement Sailors enough to ſtand by the Sails, will be ſufficient; and the Land-Men being Quarter'd at the Guns, will perform that Duty. And it ſo happening that our Fleet from *Virginia*, and the *Eaſt-India* Ships being already Arrived, and the Fleet from the *Weſt-Indies*, being to return under ſufficient Convoys of the Men of War, which have been for ſome time in thoſe Parts; we have not now, as at other times, ſuch a real Neceſſity of ſo ſtrong a Winter Guard for the Channel. Beſides, thoſe Ships that Convoy the King of *Spain*, will be a Guard, where they come, in the Channel, till ſuch Time as they are paſs'd *Uſhant*; and ſome of them may, as ſoon as they have ſeen the Tranſports ſafe in Harbour, return into the Channel in a very few Days; ſo that I cannot apprehend any fear of Danger by the *French* in this Expedition, from Reaſons that we are not able to Equip a Fleet ſufficient to Convoy the King of *Spain*; or that we ſhall want ſuch Ships in the Channel for the Security of Trade.

Country-m. Sir, What you ſay gives me ſome Comfort. But what Fence have we againſt Cowardice, or Treachery, and Miſmanagement? Admiral *Graydon* had Ships enough to Fight the *French* returning from the *Weſt-Indies*, with a great Booty; he met them, and yet they got into *France*.

Obſ. The Queen, and Her Honourable Privy Council, have done ſo very well in Relation to our Naval Affairs, ſince Her Majeſties Happy Acceſſion to the Throne, That things of this Nature are almoſt grown out of Faſhion. You have not known Her Majeſty reward any Sea Commander for giving up his Ship, or not Fighting the Enemy when he had a fair Opportunity: But more than once you have found Her Majeſty doing the Nation Juſtice, contrary to the Opinion and Sentence of the Courts-Martial at Sea. Beſides, at the Juncture when this Expedition will be made, our Repreſentatives, who are the Guardians of our Liberties, and who are more immediately concerned for the Publick Welfare, will be Sitting; and Her Majeſty will have the Grand Council of the Nation to Conſult with upon any Emergent Occaſion. And let me tell you, thoſe who owe our Country no Kindneſs, will regard what they do, when they have a Parliament in View. Never fear, Honeſt *Country-man*, I hope God will proſper this Expedition, tho' I know all our Enemies are at Work to defeat it, and well they may; for if ever, in my Time, *France* was likely to be touch'd in the Senſible Part, it is at this Juncture; and the Tyrant of that Country already Staggers at the very thoughts of the Blow.

We find the Admirante of *Caſtile* is not run Mad, as they Reported at *Paris*; he has Reaſon enough left yet to keep the Intereſt of the Houſe of *Auſtria* in a good Condition at the Court of *Portugal*, and to keep the *French* Ambaſſador at a due diſtance from the Ear of that King.

Country-m. Maſter *Obſervator*, here's ſomething Extraordinay in the *Paris* News, mentioned in the *Flying-Poſt*, viz. *We cannot know till the Arrival of our next Letters from* Italy, *if the Duke* de Vendoſme *has abandoned all the POSTS he took in the* Trentine. Look ye here, d'ye ſee, *Poſts* in Capital Letters: What is the meaning of it, were they great *Poſts* he took? I remember no *Poſts* he took there: He and *Bavaria* were ſoundly beat from *Pillow* to *Poſt* in that Country by the *Tyrol Boors*, and I think they both of 'em deſerve a *Whipping-Poſt* for their Expedition.

Obſ. The Author of the *Flying-Poſt* makes that a

Capital

Capital Banter. Thoſe five great Letters are bigger than all the *Poſts Vendoſme* took in that Country. No, no, he had as good have ſtaid at Home: But you don't mark the Reaſons for quitting the imaginary Caſtles he had got Poſſeſſion of; he's now going upon a more dangerous Enterprize than Climbing over Rocks, and Sliding down *Precipices*; there are 6000 *Germans* Marching to the *Tuſcan-Sea*, to be Embark'd on Board the Confederate Fleet, and he's to March after them upon the Water, and perhaps Swim back again without his Head; as the Saint did from the Hill of *Hoath* in *Ireland* to *Holy-Head* in *Wales*. The *Paris Legend* is a Comical Writing, and Enclines one more to Laughing than Melancholy. Has't got no Home News?

Country-m. I went to the Coffee-Houſe to enquire after ſome Home News, and there I met with *Harry Clitus*, and what de'e think he told me?

Obſ. Prithee! 'Tis Time loſt to think on any thing he ſays.

Country-m. He tells me that *Shadrach*, *Meſhach*, and *Abednego* were for *Paſſive-Obedience*, and *Non-Reſiſtance*, and that God wrought that Miracle for them, for that very Reaſon; now I thought according to thoſe Doctrines, thoſe ſhould have gone into the *Fiery Furnace* of themſelves, to have ſhow'd their Readineſs in Complying with the Kings Commands; but *Harry* is a meer Conjurer in ſaying they did not Reſiſt. Lord help 'em, poor Creatures! How could three Men Reſiſt 30 or 40, perhaps, 100 Thouſand Men? I dare engage they would have done it if they could. I am ſure they had a Cauſe good enough to juſtifie ſuch a Reſiſtance: I fancy theſe *Non-Reſiſting* Fellows would be of another Mind, if it came nearer Home to them. I am Confident *Paſſive-Harry Clitus*, would be *Active* enough in Reſiſting if he was brought to the Gallows, and found by that means a Probability of eſcaping the Rector of *Hockley i'the Hole*, and his Clark *Jack Ketch*. But Maſter *Obſervator*, pray condeſcend to give me your Opinion of another thing *Harry Clitus* told me. *viz. That King* William *was made King of* England *by Right of his Wife.* And he proves it thus. *Either that Prince muſt have a Right by Deſcent, or Conqueſt, or he could not Aſcend the Throne by his own Right; but he had neither a Right by Deſcent, or Conqueſt; and therefore he could not be made a King by his own Right.*

Obſ. This is the fineſt piece of *Categorical* Nonſenſe that ever I met with in my Life: This Argument would have ſerv'd as well to prove that the Man in the *Moon* Drinks Claret, as to prove what he intends. Such a *Logician* as this, ought to be whipt and ſent back to the *Grammer-School*. Tho' you underſtand nothing of the Nature of *Syllogiſms*, I'll convince you of the Abſurdity of this Argument: They are to prove that King *William* was made *King* in Right of his *Wife*. The Premiſes are, *Either that Prince muſt have a Right by Deſcent, or Conqueſt, or he could not Aſcend the Throne by his own Right: But he had neither a Right by Deſcent, or Conqueſt*; The Concluſion ſhould be, *Therefore he Aſcended the Throne by the Right of his Wife.* And is not this a very pretty Concluſion from ſuch Premiſes? I will allow his *Minor* to be true, *That K.* William *came to the Crown neither by the Right of* Deſcent, *or* Conqueſt; neither of which gave him a *Right* and Title to the *Crown*; but his *Major* is abominably falſe; that *Either he came to the Crown by the Right of* Deſcent, *or* Conqueſt; for he came to the Crown by the *Conſent* and *Election* of the People as Repreſented in *Convention* of the Eſtates.

To go a little farther in Demonſtrating the ſurdities of theſe Men: Let us behold King *W* on the Throne after the Death of his *Wife*, the V tuous and Bleſſed Queen *Mary*; will theſe Fo People tell me how he came there? Not by *Co* I'm ſure. Our Parliament will never admit of Right; for I ſaw the Doctrine of *Corqueſt*, by t Order, but a few Years ago, Burn't by the Ha of the common Hangman in both the *Pallace-Y* at *Weſtminſter*: Not by *Deſcent*; unleſs, as I ſaid fore, they can prove King *William* to be the Leg mate Iſſue of King *James*, and the next in Succeſ by *Blood*: How then did he enjoy the Crown? the Right and Title which the People gave H and by no other that I know of.

The Deſign of theſe Men is Miſchievous enou but their Reaſoning is full as weak as their Cau ſo very thin that the meaneſt Capacity may lo thro' it. They endeavour to undermine the Fou dation of the *Revolution*, on which this Governm is Built, and which we muſt Maintain with haza of Life and Limb. A Bleſſing ſo dearly Purcha muſt be highly Valu'd. *Revolution Principles* we the *Principles* of our Anceſtors; without them we h never known what are the Rights of *Engliſhm* and without them we had never been able to Defe thoſe Rights to our own Uſe, and to leave them t Our Poſterity.

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